

IN THE CLAIMS

Complete listing of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A directory searching method of searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory structure, contained in a directory structure which is stored in a hierarchical structure including plural directory structures in a storage medium and wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name,; the directory searching method comprising steps of:

inputting the first name and the second name with a inputting device, and
searching the plural plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract thea prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name,
searching the extracted directory structure based on the second name so as to extract a directory having the second name, and
obtaining the prescribed directory contained in the extracted directory. wherein the directory having the second name is in the same hierarchy level as the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The directory searching method of claim 1, further comprising step of:

displaying at least a part of the prescribed extracted directory structure extracted in the searching step.

5. (Currently Amended) The directory searching method of claim 1, further comprising step of:

selecting a part of the a prescribe directory structure contained in part of the extracted in the searching step directory structure.

6. (Currently Amended) The directory searching method of claim 1, wherein the at least two directories having store a set data containings at least one of image data, sound data and sound image data.

7. (Currently Amended) A directory searching apparatus for searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory, contained in a directory structure which is stored in a hierarchical structure including plural directory structures in a storage medium wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure and includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name; , the directory searching apparatus comprising of;

an inputting device to input the first name and the second name with a inputting device, and

a searching device for searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract the prescribed a directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name,

wherein the directory having the second name is in the same hierarchy level as the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name.a searching device of searching the extracted directory structure based on the second name so as to extract a directory having the second name, and

— a obtaining device to obtain the prescribed directory contained in the extracted directory.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, further comprising of;

_____ a range specification device to specify a search range.

11. (Original) The directory searching device apparatus of claim 10, wherein the search range is the top and bottom level in the directory structure.

12. (Currently Amended) The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, further comprising of:
_____ a displaying device to display at least a part of the extracted prescribed directory structure extracted by the searching device.

13. (Currently Amended) The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, further comprising of:
_____ a selecting device to select a part of the prescribe directory structure contained in part of the extracted by the searching device directory structure.

14. (Currently Amended) The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least two directories having store a set data containing at least one of image data, sound data and sound image data.

15. (Original) A directory searching program comprising step of controlling a computer to function as a directory searching method of claim 1.

16. (Original) A directory searching program comprising a controlling section to control a computer to function as a directory searching apparatus of claim 7.

17. (Original) A storage medium comprising data corresponding to the directory searching program of claim 15.

18. (Original) A storage medium comprising data corresponding to the directory searching program of claim 16.

19. (New) A directory searching method of searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory structure, wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name, the directory searching method comprising:

inputting the first name and the second name with a inputting device, and
searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name,
wherein the directory having the second name is in the hierarchy level below the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name.